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YEARS' TEACHING.

LITERARY NOTICES

AND A WORK WRITTEN IN REPLY TO JOHN STUART MILL
ON THE SUBJECTION OF WOMEN.

By MARY F. W. F. F. F.

*also author
of One Can Dream*

COPIES OF CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, &c.

WATERLOO, May, 1858.

I hereby testify, on behalf of the School Board of School Section No. 14, Township of Waterloo, that Mr. D. McCaig, who taught for two and a half years the school in the above named section, discharged his duties to the entire satisfaction of the Trustees and people of the section generally, and that he only left to attend the Provincial Normal School, Toronto, much to the regret of all interested in the welfare of the school.

ROBERT AMOS,
Secretary of School Board.

PERRYTOWN, December, 1859.

We hereby certify that Mr. D. McCaig, who had been engaged by us upon the personal recommendations of Mr. Robertson, Head Master of the Toronto Normal School, has acted in the capacity of teacher in the village of Perrytown, County of Durham, to the entire satisfaction of all parties concerned, and we hereby recommend him as a young man of ability, talent and patience, as a teacher of common schools.

WILLIAM BOLAND, }
AARON CHOATE, } TRUSTEES.

BERLIN, May 20th, 1878.

We, the Public School Trustees for the Town of Berlin, during the years 1871 and 1872, hereby testify that Mr. Donald McCaig was employed by us as Principal of the Berlin Central School, for the term of about eight months, when he resigned his position for the more lucrative one of Principal of the Galt Central School. While Principal of the Berlin Central School Mr. McCaig discharged his duties to the satisfaction of his employers, who received his resignation with regret. We have much pleasure in testifying to Mr. McCaig's ability and general worth.

A. J. PETERSON,
ENOCH ZIEGLER,
F. RITTINGER,
J. H. HELLER,
J. A. MACKIE, Chairman.
W. H. BOWLBY.

GONE TO GALT.—The *Berlin Telegraph* says that Mr. D. McCaig, who for some time past has filled the position of Principal of the Central School in that town, left on Thursday last to assume his duties in a similar capacity in Galt Central School. It is but simple justice to this gentleman to state that during his brief residence among us, he has deservedly gained the respect and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. Mr. McCaig is a gentleman of culture, and possesses in a high degree qualities which render him an eminently successful teacher. We feel confident that his success in Galt will be marked with the same success which has attended his previous labors as an instructor of youth. We need hardly add that Mr. McCaig carries with him the good wishes of this community for his future prosperity.

GALT, April 2nd, 1878.

D. McCaig, Esquire, Rockwood, Ontario.

DEAR SIR,—We, the undersigned, members of the Galt Public School Board, during your occupancy of the Principalship of the Central School here, learning that you are about to apply for the office of Public School Inspector for the First Division of the County of Wellington, and believing that your appointment would inure to the advancement of educational interests in the sister county, have much pleasure in bearing testimony from personal knowledge to your merits as a teacher, and to the efficiency with which you discharged the onerous duties of your office as Principal of our School during the three years you were in Galt. Your services here were duly appreciated by the Board of Trustees, by the then Inspector, and by the townspeople generally, and your departure was the occasion of very general regret, since not only were you highly regarded professionally, but as an individual and a member of society, your frank and genial disposition, and your earnestness and integrity of character won for you the esteem and respect of the community at large. We feel warranted in saying that you possess in a large measure the qualifications requisite to a successful administration of the functions belonging to the office for which you are applying, viz., ample and well digested scholarship, a well matured judgment, extensive experience in teaching, a thorough knowledge of school economy and organization, an intimate acquaintance with Public School Law, and the practical working and bearings of our whole school system; besides being the possessor of mental powers of large grasp and cultivation, enabling you to turn your literary and professional attainments to the best advantage.

We believe that your appointment to the office of School Inspector would be a good one, and would be followed by excellent results. We will be pleased to learn that your application has been successful.

SIGNED.

JAMES McFEIGGAN.
GAVIN HUME.
JOHN HABBICK.
C. W. GIRDLESTONE.
GEO. E. HUSBAND, M.D.
THOMAS PATTERSON.
JOHN BARBOUR.
ALEX. MACGREGOR.
ROBERT McLEAN.

Extract from published Report of Public School Inspector for the Town of Galt.

"I have to congratulate you on the satisfactory state of the Public Schools. It gives me great pleasure to notice the high state of progress and proficiency manifested by the pupils of the two highest divisions. I consider Messrs. McCaig and Suddaby, Principal and sub-Principal, valuable acquisitions to your staff of teachers.

REV. J. B. MUIR, M.A., P. S. I.,
Galt.

Extracts from Letters of Recommendation.

* * * "Mr. McCaig is Principal of our Public Schools in Galt, and from my position as their Inspector, I have ample opportunity of judging of his abilities as a teacher, I can, therefore, write of him in terms of the highest commendation. He teaches all the branches taught in our Public Schools with great success. But Mathematics and Natural Science are a specialty with him; I never heard these taught better than by Mr. McC. * * Mr. McCaig's bearing is gentlemanly, he is in the prime of life, and his character is irreproachable.

REV. J. B. MUIR, M.A., P.S.I.

* * * "I enclose you the official information, that at the Teachers' Examination last summer, you were one of the two best in Algebra, Geometry and Natural Philosophy. * * I am glad to see the favorable notices of your work in reply to Mill."

GEORGE PAXTON YOUNG,
Professor of Metaphysics, Toronto University.

* * * "You did well in the papers in my department, and I shall have no objection to say so to the Government if referred to."

J. W. McLELLAN,
High School Inspector.

I believe Mr. D. McCaig to be eminently qualified for the position to which he aspires. He is possessed of great vigor of mind, and his acquirements and experience fit him especially for the imparting of instruction to advanced pupils. * * The excellence of his methods of teaching is satisfactorily proved by the success with which they have been crowned.

REV. THOMAS WARDROPE,
Chalmers' Church, Guelph.

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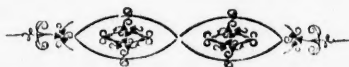
* * * From what I have seen of your friend, Mr. McCaig, in Guelph, I formed a very high opinion of him, and regret very much his declination of the position in the Agricultural College, which Mr. McKellar wished him to occupy.

HON. DAVID CHRISTIE.

TO ROBERT McLEAN, Esq., Toronto.

It affords me great pleasure to inform you, that upon the very satisfactory examination which you have recently passed, the Committee of Examiners have recommended, and the Council of Public Instruction have decided, that you are entitled to a first-class certificate of the highest grade A, by which you are made legally eligible for the office of County Inspector of Public Schools, and County Board Examiner.

E. RYERSON.



LITERARY NOTICES.

* * * We have to congratulate the author on the ability he has displayed in writing on a subject confessedly beset with difficulties, and in meeting on his own ground, and so fully answering the arguments of so accomplished a logician as John Stuart Mill. It was indeed a hazardous undertaking for a young author like Mr. McCaig to measure lances with the great metaphysician, but after a careful consideration of the question as presented in Mr. Mill's book, and Mr. McCaig's answer, we are bound to say that the latter, in our opinion, has the best of the argument. He has approached the subject only after a thorough investigation, and from the premises which he carefully lays down he follows with a mass of argument and evidence which no candid mind can resist. The criticism is searching and severe, but it is never uncourteous. It is more comprehensive than Mr. Mill's work, and widens towards the close to the great principles underlying the whole question, which are very ably handled, in language well chosen and vigorous.—*Guelph Mercury*.

"This reply is from an anonymous but able pen, and makes a strong answer to the specious philosopher, and most thoroughly exposes his sophisms, his contradictions, his unwarranted assumptions, his broad conclusions from narrowest premises, his seeming ignorance of human nature, his overlooking of the real causes of woman's woes and indication of imaginary causes, his loosening of all moral ties in society, his defiance of all history and experience, and his boundless egotism and self-assurance. A calm consideration of the views here advanced would surely make many of the well meaning but rash enthusiasts in the "Woman's Rights" movement pause on the threshold of the attempt to revolutionize the family and the state, and shrink back from the sad but certain consequences which would follow upon its success."—*Chicago Advance*.

An anonymous author here furnishes the *alteram partem* to Mr. Mill, with a cogency and breadth of judgment that cannot fail to command respectful consideration. He states Mr. Mill's case quite fully in the first hundred pages, with accompanying criticism, and then proceeds to join issue. He notices the singularity that Dr. Bushnell should be taking one side of the argument at the instant when Mr. Mill was elaborately presenting the other, and regrets that Mr. Mill's essay should be of a nature to find its first friends in those most anxious to set all law and morals at defiance. He comments, too, on the fact that the rational legislation advised cannot free itself from the hold of feeling and affection, and the extravagant method of reform advocated. The investigation of Mr. Mill's argument is pursued in a sharp and remorseless manner along its whole current, until the claim of equality is itself considered, when all the arguments are accumulated against it, and it is alleged that women would gain nothing by

the costly concession. * The essay is chiefly a review and criticism. It swells to grander principles, and a more universal comprehension at the close, and is throughout marked by high attainments and great ability. It is superior to Mr. Mill's in performance, and cannot fail to exert a deserved influence on the question at this crisis."—*Philadelphia American and Gazette*.

A reply to John Stewart Mill on the Subjection of Women attempts to prove by reasoning what the pleader for household altars and fires has tried to do by sentiment. He brings forward little that is new on this subject, but employs the ordinary arguments with considerable skill, and will, we think, convince all but those obstinately wedded to the other side that "their fathers were not all tyrants, nor their mothers all slaves."—*Cincinnati Gazette*.

"The writer earnestly encounters Mr. Mill, and, undaunted by his great name, presents a well-considered and well-arranged statement of the conservative side of the question, whose settlement, as modern reformers desire, would, in the judgment of many, only give a greater degree of restlessness, and political immorality and excitement, to a people whose besetting sins already go too far in this direction. All who do not believe that their fathers were all tyrants and their mothers all slaves, should read this book."—*Charleston (S. C.) Courier*.

"This is a volume without a hint at its authorship, a table of contents or an index. We confess to a prejudice against it, but upon perusal it proves to be a very able, candid, and convincing argument. Rev. Dr. Bushnell was expected to expose the fallacies of female suffrage, but his arrow fell far short of the mark. The unknown essayist has done very much better. There is real solid argument in this little book, and not the unreasoning cant that too often palms itself off for logic. Without going into the details of the subject, we may say that this volume presents the woman question in all its phases more justly than any other the agitation for female suffrage has called out."—*Chicago Evening Journal*.

"The unknown author of this reply, whom we suspect is a strong-minded layman, has discussed this great social problem with great thoroughness and ability. Those who feel interested in the projected social reform, cannot find a book in which the fallacies of Woman's Rights, from Mill down to Miss Walker, are so fully exposed, as in this reply. It is the best book on the side against Mill. And no one can rise from reading it without the conviction that 'our fathers were not all tyrants, nor our mothers all slaves.'"—*Philadelphia Lutheran Observer*.

* * * I have just returned from the sea side, and have only been able as yet to read about forty pages of your book ; but judging from this, I am able to congratulate you heartily on your success, and encourage you to persevere in authorship.

D. H. MACVICAR,
Montreal.

* * * From what I have already overtaken, I promise myself great pleasure in the perusal of your work in reply to Mill. I have always regarded him as a clever writer, but unsafe guide, and his position on the question you discuss as untenable.

DR. WM. ORMISTON,
New York.

* * * I see from the notices of your work, and the pages I have been able to glance at, that you have conducted the argument against Mill with much vigour and ability. I regret that the pressure of College work during this Session will not allow me to undertake anything like a review or adequate notice of your important contribution to our Canadian literature.

PROFESSOR CAVEN,
Knox's College, Toronto.

* * * I entirely agree with you as to the fallacious character of Mr. Mill's teaching in the volume to which you so ably reply. On this question I have always regarded him as in error, much as I respect his ability, and the general excellence of his teaching.

GOLDWIN SMITH.

On Friday evening, the 15th instant, a lecture was delivered in the School House, Section No. 15, Beverly, under the auspices of the Sons of Temperance, by Mr. McCaig, of the Galt Central School. Subject, "Double Current of our Lives." The lecture was a particularly able one, and listened to throughout by a large and attentive audience."—*Galt Reformer*.

LECTURE.—A lecture was delivered last evening in the W. M. Church of this place, under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, on the "Philosophy of Christian Ethics," by Mr. D. McCaig, Principal of the Berlin Central School. The subject was handled in a most able and original manner, and marked throughout with great energy and depth of thought.—*Berlin Paper*.